

FIRST **fci**
COINVESTORS, INC.

November 15, 1976

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

This certifies that I have examined the accompanying coin--an old familiar friend as it changed hands over the years--and that I unhesitatingly declare it genuine and as represented; my detailed conclusions follow.

It is a 1776 Pewter Continental Dollar, issued by order of Continental Congress from Elisha Gallaudet's dies with one R in CURRENCY (Newman I-C), but struck on an extra broad planchet with plain edge, unlike all other pewter dollars seen to date. The planchet is irregular in shape, not round, as made, and its fabric indicates that this was some kind of trial impression, not intended for regular circulation. It is one of the earlier impressions from these dies, as there is only the very minutest trace of the usual break above GI of FUGIO; normally the pewter impressions from these dies show extensive breakage in that area. It is the only impression known on this type of planchet, and the only one ever reported with broad enough flan to show any part of the areas outside the border beads.

When this piece first came to light, about 1963, in the Pressman collection (Cleveland), it excited a storm of controversy; in order to settle any doubts, I had nondestructive analysis made of its chemical composition, which proved to be in excess of 95% pure tin, without any significant lead content, the same as the Ordinary 1776 dollars, but entirely unlike any of the cast counterfeits. Actually, its fabric proves beyond any doubt--even any unreasonable doubt--that it is a struck piece and that the planchet is just as it came from the press; it has been described as "carrying its own credentials". I am happy to certify this extraordinary and doubtless unique piece again as authentic; it has appeared a couple of times at auction, but despite its publicity, no duplicate has ever shown up.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Green



Subscription Price \$17.50/yr.

FIRST COINVESTORS, INC.

F. C. I. BUILDING • 200 I. U. WILLETS ROAD • ALBERTSON, NEW YORK 11507 • TEL. 516/294-0040

RARE COIN ADVISORY

Volume X, No. 1

January 1977

SOLD TO JOSEPH P. O'HARA, F.C.I. CUSTOMER
- INSURED FOR \$100,000 -



The 1776 Plain Edge Continental Dollar - (Unique)

November 15, 1976

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Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Walter Breen

MARK M. WENNER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUITE 706
222 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
CLAYTON (St. Louis), MISSOURI 63105
TELEPHONE (314) 863-4848
FACSIMILE (314) 725-2409

PATRICK NIALL MEHAN

May 16, 1996

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Mr. Newman:

Some twenty years ago at the suggestion of Ed Grossman I obtained your assistance in reviewing a coin collection.

My cousin by marriage, Mr. Joe O'Hara, has asked me to look into the matter of a single coin which is in his collection. Two documents which pertain to the coin, signed by a Walter Breen, are enclosed.

Mr. O'Hara, who has recently enjoyed in 90th birthday, is interested in disposing of the coin. I have no idea as to how this might be done and would appreciate any suggestion that you might have relative to potential buyers, auctions, or other means of disposal.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Very truly yours,



MARK M. WENNER, Attorney for
Joe P. O'Hara

MMW/js
Enclosures

MARK M. WENNER
222 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
SAINT LOUIS, MISSOURI 63105

Mr Eric P. Newman
6450 Lecil Avenue
St Louis Missouri

Dear Mr Newman:

The time you spent with me and Mr + Mrs O'Hara was thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated by us.

The O'Hara's have asked me to proceed with having the coin photographed and authenticated. I would appreciate your assistance in the latter pursuit.

July 10, 1996

yours
Mark M. Wenner

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR _____

E.
7/8/96

DATE _____

TIME _____

A.M.
P.M.

M _____

Mark Wenne

OF _____

PHONE _____

AREA CODE

NUMBER

EXTENSION

TELEPHONED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PLEASE CALL	
CAME TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL		SPECIAL ATTENTION	

MESSAGE _____

Confirming meeting at your home

TUES AM bet. 9:15 & 9:30

~~Mr & Mrs Offara + Wenne came
to my house, showed me the corn.
It is genuine, lonely surface, in plaster
SIGNED so I couldnt see edge. He paid
LITHO IN U.S.A. \$ 50,000 out of \$ 775,000 purchase
he says about 20 years ago~~

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

FOR

C

DATE

8/5

TIME

10¹⁰A.M.
P.M.

M.

mark Wenney

OF

PHONE

AREA CODE

NUMBER

EXTENSION

TELEPHONED		PLEASE CALL	
CAME TO SEE YOU		WILL CALL AGAIN	
WANTS TO SEE YOU		RUSH	
RETURNED YOUR CALL	✓	SPECIAL ATTENTION	

MESSAGE

SIGNED

LITHO IN U.S.A.

MARK M. WENNER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
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222 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
CLAYTON (ST. LOUIS), MISSOURI 63105
TELEPHONE (314) 863-4848
FACSIMILE (314) 725-2409

PATRICK NIALL MEHAN

August 7, 1996

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

In Re: Authentication of coin owned by Joe P. O'Hara

Dear Mr. Newman:

I am, simultaneously with the delivery of this letter to you, delivering into your hands the coin which I have referred to a the 1776 plain edge continental dollar.

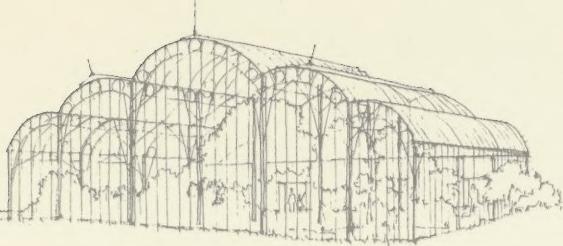
I look forward to your findings and conclusion.

Very truly yours,

Mark M. Wenner

MARK M. WENNER, Attorney
for Joe P. O'Hara

MMW/js



The Butterfly House and Education Center

Faust Park • St. Louis County, Missouri

September 4, 1996

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric:

What a saint! What an inspiration! What a dear! What a GUY!!!!

How thoughtful of you to suggest to Mr. Joe P. O'Hara that he make a contribution to The Butterfly House and Education Center in lieu of payment to you for your professional opinion. His \$500 donation arrived today and what a great surprise it was. We are deeply grateful for your suggestion. I have strongly recommended to our president that she bestow on you at least 100 butterfly kisses.

Until that time, please accept our most sincere appreciation for your continued support and guidance.

Sincerely,

D. Lynn Seline
Executive Director

Evelyn Newman
President

Lucy Lopata
Vice President

Linda Penniman
Secretary & Treasurer

Board of Advisors

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*Chancellor Emeritus,
Washington University*

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Garden*

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Chairman, Sachs Properties

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*Chancellor, University of
Missouri-St. Louis*

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Consultant, Anheuser-Busch, Inc.
Honorary Family Chair
Carole and Jack Buck

International Butterfly Consultant

Frank Elia
*Manager, Day Butterfly House
Calloway Gardens, Georgia*

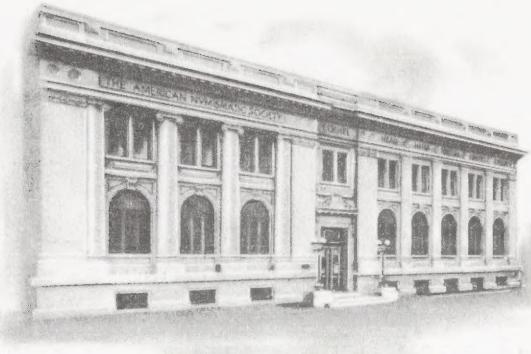
D. Lynn Seline
Executive Director

40 North Kingshighway
St. Louis, Missouri
63108-1355

Phone: 314-361-3365
Fax: 314-361-0812

TELEPHONE
(212) 234 - 3130

TELEFAX
(212) 234-3381



THE AMERICAN NUMISMATIC SOCIETY
(FOUNDED 1858 • INCORPORATED 1865)
BROADWAY AT 155TH STREET
NEW YORK N.Y. 10032

September 6, 1996

Eric P. Newman
Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis MO 63105

Dear Eric,

Bill Noyes, Mike Ringo, and Bob Martin were here yesterday and we all worked very hard - from 9:30 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon, without even stopping for lunch. First we photographed the Continental dollar, then the large cents and the half cent from the Walter Harlow bequest, then counterfeit 2 reales for my die study, and then we just sat down and did tray after tray of Connecticut coppers - we even made a dent in 1787.

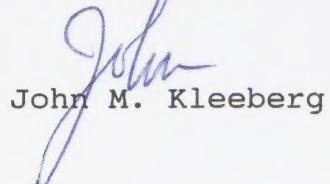
I asked Bill if he wanted me to keep the Continental dollar here and wait until he developed the film, to see if there was any misexposure, but he said he is not returning to his home until another three weeks, so I will send the coin back to Mr. Wenner on Tuesday, since we cannot send out registered mail on Saturdays. All four of us were very pleased to see that Continental dollar; as Bill says, it explains a lot of things. The remains of the casting sprue on the top indicates that they cast their planchets of tin. Then they struck the coins, then they filed down the coins to the dotted border to make the coins round, and then they put the edge on. For some reason they decided not to file down this piece; maybe the dies were so misaligned that the planchet would have ended up too oval.

Bill reminded me, have you seen the photograph which he took of the halfpenny size striking from the Continental dollar dies which is now in the Smithsonian? Bill wanted it to be a "Continental cent," but I think it was a trial strike on a worn halfpenny to see if the dies were working okay, before they began striking their cast tin planchets, and Bill says that is a reasonable enough explanation, even if it kills all the romance. Bill sent me a copy of that picture, but I cannot locate it now, otherwise I would

tell you what die variety it was. But I suspect you know of the piece already.

Bill also made photographs of the edge of the Continental dollar, focusing on the casting sprue, and if those come out that will be quite good.

All the best,


John M. Kleeberg

P.S. I believe you have cracked Dr. Hall's price code, because you told me ~~the~~ price he paid for his New York & America token. Could you send it to me so I could pass it on to Ringo, Noyes + Martin? I have been looking thru Dr. Hall's copy of Crosby on the cents of 1793, where he lists all his '93 cents, + his prices in code.

MARK M. WENNER
ATTORNEY AT LAW
SUITE 706
222 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
CLAYTON (ST. LOUIS), MISSOURI 63105
TELEPHONE (314) 863-4848
FACSIMILE (314) 725-2409

PATRICK NIALL MEHAN

October 28, 1996

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

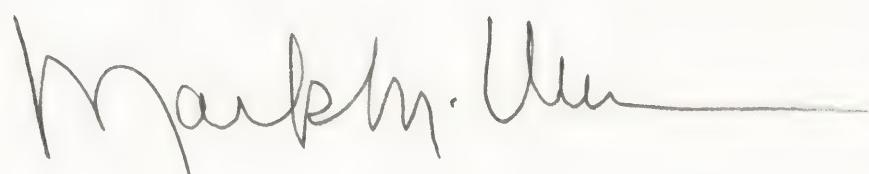
Dear Mr. Newman:

Enclosed you will find two sets of three photographs, a single sided (obverse or reverse) photograph and a double sided photograph, enlarged, of the 1776 Colonial currency dollar which was the subject of the authentication made by you on behalf of Mr. Joe P. O'Hara. The double sided photograph bears the registration number (number 71385), which number is peculiar to the record of the coin kept by Mr. William Noyes, photographer, for his Colonial archives, as he informs me.

I am very appreciative of the update for the authentication which you sent to me. I am presently maintaining the coin in my safe deposit at Boatmen's Bank pending its sale, which Mr. O'Hara has directed me to carry out. If you are aware of any collectors who would be interested in purchasing the coin, I would entertain their inquiries on behalf of Mr. O'Hara.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,



MARK M. WENNER

MMW/js
Enclosures



Obverse 1

Plain edge

Large planchet

Ottawa coin
enlargement

Noyes # 71385



Oloverse 1

Plain edge
Large planchet.

O'Hara corn
enlargement

Noyes # 71385



Reverse C

Plain edge
Large planchet

O'Hara coin
enlargement

Noyes # 71385-



Reverse C

Plain edge

Large Planchet

Ottawa coin

enlargement

Noyes ^H 71385



71385

Variety 1-C

Plain edge

Large Planchet

O'Hara Example

enlarged Noyes photo



71385

Variety I-C
Plain edg
Large Blanchet

Ottawa example
enlarged Noyes photo

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

1776 Continental Currency Dollar in Pewter
Variety 1-C, with Plain Edge and Large Planchet

On behalf of Joseph P. O'Hara our opinion has been requested by Mark Wenner as to the above coin for authentication and comment.

The series of 1776 Continental Currency dollars consists of pieces struck in brass, pewter, and silver all of which are either rare or very scarce. The design for the dies is derived from the fractional dollar varieties of the paper money authorized by the Continental Congress by resolution of February 17, 1776 and extensively issued. The dies were cut by Elisha Gallaudet, an engraver of illustrations who was inexperienced in die cutting. There is no mention of the coinage in any records of the Continental Congress or other governmental documents. The coinage was never put in circulation but some may have been distributed to members of the Continental Congress for examination. The coins are usually categorized as trial or pattern pieces. There are four known in silver, less than 20 in brass and about 150 to 250 in pewter. The pewter has a high percentage of tin. A detailed variety classification was written by me in 1952.

The O'Hara piece obverse die (sundial) with the misspelling of CURRENCY is die variety 1 and the reverse with 13 linked states with the spacing error involving the N in AMERICAN is die variety C. The obverse die, after use with the reverse dies A and B and a few of C, developed a crack over the GI in FUGIO which crack enlarged as more were struck. The O'Hara piece is in the early stages of the crack. The reverse die C was originally cut as reverse A and was modified into reverse B by recutting and further modified into reverse C by recutting.

The edges of all pewter pieces have a continuous raised floreated design, probably rolled on by a Castaing machine before striking the faces. The O'Hara piece has no edge decoration. Both faces of all pewter pieces have a circle of dots at the circumferential border, parts of which circle are not always visible on the planchet because that part of the die extended beyond the circumference of the planchet. In pewter strikings space outside the circle of dots does not appear. In the O'Hara coin the flat space outside the circle of dots clearly shows.

The O'Hara coin weighs 18.97 grams. It has a specific gravity of 7.25 which is in the normal range for pewter pieces. Its horizontal diameter is 42.5 mm and its vertical diameter is 42.0 mm. It is the largest pewter planchet we have seen, having about the same diameter as the Spanish - American 8 real pieces over which the silver 1776 Continental Dollars are struck. If the O'Hara piece obverse is turned on its vertical axis the reverse is offset about 20 degrees clockwise. The obverse border space beyond the circle of dots is much larger on the left side and the top than on the right side and the bottom. On the reverse the border space

beyond the circle of dots is larger on the right side than on the left side.

The condition of the O'Hara coin is superb. It has beautiful natural silver gray toning with a bright gloss which other choice uncirculated varieties in pewter have. It is sharply struck and shows no wear. It has a tiny circular nick over R in CURRENCY. On its edge it has two file test marks done by others in the past to check its genuineness. Its edge has a slight offset from 9 to 11 o'clock when observed from the obverse and this seems to have occurred in the preparation of the planchet before striking. We have not had a chemical analysis made because Walter Breen when he sold O'Hara the piece on behalf of First Coin Investors in 1976 stated it was done and its results were the same as those with which we are familiar. An article written by Michael Hodder gives many testing results but does not mention the O'Hara piece.

The O'Hara coin in our opinion is clearly genuine and this confirms the opinion of Walter Breen. We have examined many Continental Currency dollars, genuine and forged, uncirculated and worn, and have no reason to think the lack of an edge decoration (a common defect of many forgeries) is other than natural in this instance. The O'Hara piece has no characteristics of casting or electrotyping and is clearly a die struck coin. It is unique so far as we know as to pewter planchet size and as to lack of edge decoration on pewter coinage. Its provenance and prior history is known to us only through the written comments of Walter Breen made in 1976, when it was stated that the O'Hara coin first became known in 1963.

It is not for us to speculate as to why the O'Hara piece was made in its existing form as we have no facts to guide us. A larger than normal pewter planchet was cut for some reason and the coin was struck between other pewter strikings.

The coin is returned herewith.

We hope we have been helpful.



Eric P. Newman

August 19, 1996

*This page was corrected
and rewritten.*

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

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It is not for us to speculate as to why the O'Hara piece was made in its existing form as we have no facts to guide us. A larger than normal pewter planchet was cut for some reason and the coin was struck between other pewter strikings.

The coin is returned herewith.

We hope we have been helpful.



Eric P. Newman

For Tom Serfass Changes only on page 2

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Continental
Currency

Eric P. Newman

in 1991

August 19, 1996

E.P.N.

primarily.

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Eric P. Newman

6

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Variety 1-C, with Plain Edge and Large Planchet

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by recutting edges of all three pieces were cut before striking the faces. The O'Hara piece has no edge decoration. Both faces of all pewter pieces have a circle of dots at the circumferential border, none of which circle are not always visible on the planchet because that part of the die extended beyond the circumference of the planchet. In pewter strikings space outside the circle of dots does not appear. In the O'Hara coin the flat space outside the circle of dots clearly shows.

The O'Hara coin weighs 18.97 grams. It has a specific gravity of 7.25 which is in the normal range for pewter pieces. Its horizontal diameter is 42.5 mm and its vertical diameter 42.0 mm. It is the largest pewter planchet we have seen, having about the same diameter as the Spanish-American real pieces over which the silver 1776 Continental Dollars are struck. If the O'Hara piece obverse is turned on its vertical axis the reverse is offset about 20 degrees clockwise. The obverse border space beyond the circle of dots is much larger on the left side and the top than on the right side and the bottom. On the reverse the border space beyond the circle of dots is larger on the right side than on the left side.

The condition of the O'Hara coin is superb. It has beautiful natural silver gray toning with a bright gloss which choice uncirculated specimens have. The surfaces are sharply

O'Hara

struck and shows no wear. It has a thin irregular edge over a uncirculated CURRENCY. On its edge it has two fine test marks done by others in the past to check its genuineness. The edge has a slight offset from 9 to 11 o'clock when observed from the obverse and this seems to have occurred in the preparation of the planchet before striking. We have not had a chemical analysis made because Walter Breen when he sold ~~the~~ the piece on behalf of First Coin Investors in 1976 stated it was done and its results were the same as those with which we are familiar. An article written by Michael Hodder gives many testing results but does not mention the O'Hara piece.

The O'Hara coin in our opinion is ~~likely~~ genuine and this confirms the opinion of Walter Breen. We have examined many Continental Currency dollars, genuine and forged, uncirculated and worn, and have no reason to think the lack of an edge decoration (a common defect of many forgeries) is other than natural in this instance. The O'Hara piece has no characteristics of casting or electrotyping and is clearly a die struck coin. It is unique so far as we know as to pewter planchet size and as to lack of edge decoration on pewter coinage. Its provenance and prior history is known to us only through the written comments of Walter Breen made in 1976, when it was stated that the O'Hara coin first became known in 1963.

It is not for us to speculate as to why the O'Hara piece was made in its existing form as we have no facts to guide us. A larger than normal pewter planchet was cut for some reason and the coin was struck between other pewter strikings.

We hope we have been helpful.

The coin is returned herewith.

Two test file marks on edge opposite A L of

Reversed ^{turned about} 20 degrees clockwise is turned on vertical
~~horizontal~~ axis

Obverse ^{border beyond heading} ~~on right corner on right~~ much larger on left side
and top than on ~~right~~ side of bottom.

Because border space on right side larger than on left side

Unpunctuated toning within ^{state} circles

~~The break between right edge of 20 extends to across~~
~~lower part of h.~~

~~offset~~ ~~extended edge from from extension~~ ^{opposite when looks at}
~~from 9 to 11 o'clock~~ ^{obverse}

Full circular counter heading on both sides

~~HORSE~~

~~No~~ significant nicks or scratches

Beautiful light gray toning

Irregular ~~circular~~ dent above R in CURRENCY

Shines ~ ^{Beautiful} Reflective surfaces
sharply ~~well~~ struck

~~the NOVA side is the obverse and should always be in the primary position as that was what Crosby did.~~

~~Every description of a NOVA CONSTELLATIO LIBERTAS etc copper piece must have a date with the variety as the number of letter combinations are otherwise confusing. They will be as follows:~~

1783	1783	1783	1785	1785	1785	1785	1785
1-A	2-B	3-C	1-B	2-A	3-B	4-C	4-D
1785	1785	1786					
5-E	Counterfeit	1-A					

~~The Vermont coins shall be labelled~~

~~Vermont
1785 with
Wedge Rays~~

~~Vermont
1786 with
Pointed Rays~~

~~The only illustration which must be repeated on the two sides of the NOVA and 1785 ONE COMBINATION, this will be in the text as follows:~~

~~Combination of NOVA CONSTELLATIO without punctuation between words and 1785 ONE COIN.~~

~~The second use of these illustrations needs no description because it will be in the Appendix A and already described.~~

~~The unrecognized dies of 1785 ONE COIN and NOVA need no description as they only will be in Appendix A and are there described.~~

~~The same is true for the Edwards' forgeries.~~

18.97 grams)

~~18.97~~ tare

1.80

2.18 —

2.2
2.18 — 1.99

18.97
16.38
—
2.59 water

In water 18.21

18.57
18.56

2.59 | 18.97 00
18.13
—

18.56
2.18
—
16.38

640
518
—
1220
1295

18.36
1.99
—
16.37

Hodder mentions
this piece in
"The Cont Cura Comage of 1726"^a
in the ANA Anthology (1991)
p. 10.
but had not seen it

THE
ALTMAN-HAFFNER SALE
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APRIL 28, 29, 30, 1975
7:00 P. M. SHARP

CATALOGUED BY

Walter Breen
Jack Collins
Jack Munson
Herbert Melnick
Robert Obojski

OVERALL SUPERVISION FOR THIS CATALOG

By
Walter Breen & Sylvia Haffner



PINE TREE AUCTION COMPANY, INC.

a Subsidiary of First Coinvestors, Inc.

200 I. U. Willets Road • Albertson, New York 11507 • Telephone: (516) 294-0040

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668 1788 (i.e. 1789-90?) Machin's Mill issue. Vermont Standard head, GEORGIVS.III. REX. Rev. Die of Vermont Ryder 25, 28 & 29, Connecticut rev. I of 1788. Ryder-Richardson 31, sometimes called by Connecticut collectors "131-I." Fine or better obv., G-VG rev. (always weaker, struck on a planchet peppered with small defects before striking. Lower half of date off flan, remainder readable as are all rev. letters. Very far above average; usually this coin comes so weak that it is attributable only by obverse. Very rare high R-5—possibly three dozen known, mostly Fair to VG obv., much weaker rev.; the rarest of the GEORGIVS/INDE ET LIB mulings. (Photo)

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FINEST KNOWN SPECIMEN OF THE EXTREMELY RARE NON VI VIRTUTE VICI

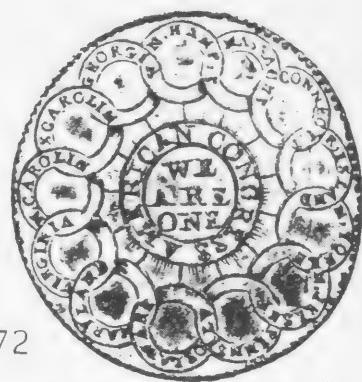
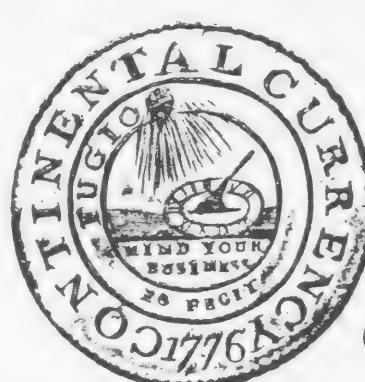


671

671 1786. New York Copper, Baker 13. Military bust r., NON VI VIRTUTE VICI = "Not By Violence, But By Moral Force, Have I Conquered". Rev. Justice or Liberty seated to right on crate, scales in left hand, pole in r. hand bearing liberty cap. NEO-EBORACENSIS 1786. Borderline Unc., rather deep olive color with some lighter iridescence faded from mint surface, struck as strongly as this comes on a planchet showing a light irregular area (end-of-strip edge, sometimes called a straight clip) affecting serrated border below bust and above EB. With this exception, shows full borders. Dies are in early enough state that partial guide-lines are still visible near some letter bottoms. A most extraordinary impression, beyond doubt FINEST KNOWN, distinctly superior to the Crosby Plate coin with its rim and field nicks, or to the Guidebook plate coin with its

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CONNECTICUT



672

(this is a picture of lot 677 not 672)

672 1787. Mailed bust right. Machin's Mills mint of Newburgh, N. Y. Miller 1.1-A, high R-3. Smallest head ETLIB INDE. Fine overall, some details VF, central regions weakly struck. Cleaned long ago and now retoned a light tan. Small mint chip at 1:00 o'clock region of obv. A nice example of an important type coin in the Connecticut series. The nearly EF specimen in our EAC sale sold for \$525. (Photo)

673 1785. Bust r. Miller 3.4-F.2. Fine for the coin, though only traces of grapevines show on shield, and only traces of hair behind wreath. Light tan with interesting natural streaky mottlings. Far above average.

MASSACHUSETTS COPERS

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675 1788. Cent. Ryder 12-I. Three folds of tunic in front of Indians left leg and two folds in front of his right. Rev. Point of third arrow touches tip of wing; first A nearer to S than M; 88 of date leans left. Fine to Very Fine in sharpness. Obv. somewhat unevenly struck, rev. details more sharply defined. Brown patination. Faint nick on obv. rim above W. Faint planchet stirrations of upper obv. and cracked lightly in adjacent region of rev. One tiny dig near feathers of arrow in Indian's left hand, no others discernible. Very rare, low R-7, none offered in years.

THE DOLLARS OF 1776

Unique Plain Edge

1776 Continental Currency Dollar

676 CONTINENTAL CURRENCY. 1776. Pewter Dollar. One R in CURRENCY. Newman 1-C. BORDERLINE UNC., considerable original brilliance, some gray tone, minor handling marks, none serious. Struck on an exceptionally broad planchet so that blank areas show around full reverse border beads and (except for one small segment at right) around full obv. border beads. PLAIN EDGE. Planchet irregular as made, not round, and there is no evidence that it ever went through the Castaing machine (which imparred the twin-leaves edge found on all normal Continental Dollars). Evidently a trial impression, not intended for regular cir-

There is no photo in the accompanying
plate or otherwise of lot # 676

COLONIAL AMERICAN COINS

57

culation, as it would immediately have raised questions on the part of any recipient offered it as a regular coin. From one of the earliest die states known, showing only the very beginning of the usual break above GI, somewhat similar to the Guidebook illustration. The piece carries its own credentials, but for certainty and out of scientific curiosity it was tested about 1963 and found to be, like other Continental pewter dollars, in excess of 95% pure tin without any significant proportion of lead; its physical characteristics are obviously those of a struck coin, its die-identity certifies to its genuineness. Beyond any possible doubt, unique. Ex Pressman coll. (Photo)

SUPERB 1776 DOLLAR

- 677 1776. **CONTINENTAL CURRENCY** Dollar with E G FECIT (Elisha Gallaudet made it.) Two R's in CURRENCY. Pewter. Newman 3-D. Brilliant Unc., rev. with faint beginnings of pale gray tone within rings, along with a few minute signs of handling. Moderately advanced die crack through links. Immaculate, and a splendid display piece; the tiny handful of mint state ones are mostly spotted and stained, or show "tin pests," from all of which this beauty is happily free; far superior to the Gilhouseen coins, or most others auctioned in recent years. (Photo)
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NOVA CONSTELLATIO COPERS

- 679 1783. **NOVA CONSTELLATIO**. Small U. S.; pointed rays. Crosby 2-B. Somewhat weak strike, especially at center; this, combined with moderate wear has obliterated U. S. from rev. Fine overall in sharpness.

CHOICE 1783 CROSBY 3-C

- 680 1783 NOVA CONSTELLATIO. Blunt rays, one L. Crosby 3-C. Practically Unc., fairly sharp strike, light reddish brown, delicately and beautifully mottled. One of three finest we have seen or heard of, the others being Cleneay, lot 309 (part red unc.) and the light olive Dr. Black coin in New Netherlands 60th sale, lot 451. Though not difficult to find in VF condition, in the present quality the piece is extremely rare. (Photo)

UNCIRCULATED NOVA CONSTELLATIO



681

1785. U. S. in script monogram; pointed rays. Crosby 3-B. Uncirculated, needle sharp strike from severely rusted and broken dies. Loss of detail on parts of rays is as made, invariable in this extremely late rusted die state. Rose and gold color with a few pale green overtones, most of these tints faded from mint color though there is evidence that the piece was cleaned long ago. Apparently the CROSBY PLATE COIN, pictured on

plate VII, no. 29 (rays side only); absolute proof is lacking since Crosby made electrotype shells and photographed those, hence the minute spots (which would confirm the coin's identity) are not visible on the plate, and may have occurred later anyway. Ex Henry C. Hines coll., as "Finest Known"; New Netherlands 36th sale, Jan. 26, 1952, lot 526, as "Uncirculated—a Choice sharp impression with considerable mint lustre—minute planchet defect on the reverse edge." (Photo)

FRENCH COLONIES

- 682 1767. **Copper Sou**. Issued for the American colonies under Louis XV. Counterstamped RF on rev. (about 1793) denoting the coinage to be then current. Very Good to Fine with a region of considerable wear on obv. opposite counterstamp. Tan patination.

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES (OREGON, WASHINGTON, BRITISH COLUMBIA AREA)

- 683 1820 Beaverskin Token. Brass. Breton 925, Curto 15. Bust of George IV, TOKEN 1820. Rev. Beaver, company name. VF or better, cleaned, some local roughness, holed as always (with a single exception). Survivors are invariably in similar condition, having been dug from burial sites and other underground sources over the years. Compare, for instance, lot 66, Merkin sale, Nov. 1966, and the one we offered last year. Very rare. (Photo)

EXTREMELY RARE NORTHWEST TOKEN

- 684 Another **NORTHWEST COMPANY** token, same type but in copper; edge diagonally reeded, as was the brass piece. Not in Breton or Curto in this metal. More or less Good, some details nearer to VG, too weakly struck for COMPANY to be legible; comparatively smooth; small suspension hole as on the brass examples. Extremely rare, more so than the brass ones. No auction record in copper. (Photo)

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EXTREMELY RARE 1799 NYC COMMUNION TOKEN

- 686 1799 Communion token of the Associate Church in New York City. Obv. Associate Church; Rev. N York 1799 the entirety in script. Oval, 17 x 23mm, long axis horizontal. Lead. Very Good or better, some of the inevitable old nicks. Extremely rare, only the second we have seen, the other being lot 348, Groves sale, Nov. 1974. Has the same claim to inclusion in the Early American series as the Albany Church Penny of 1790, and is of about the same rarity (R-7). Cf. Thomas Warner, "Communion Tokens", 1888, reprinted for American Journal of Numismatics, vol. 22, 1887-88. (Photo)

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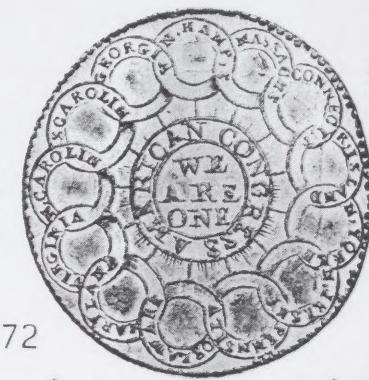
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- 685 1789 **Mott's Token**. Thin planchet; much rarer than the thick planchet. Engrailed edge. Broken dies, about as advanced a die state known. Better than Extremely Fine, beautifully mottled, light, reddish and dark brown. Exceptionally sharp strike for the die state with all legends clear, though die failure has obliterated much of eagle and part of clock. Ex. rare, a full R-7. One of not over four auctioned in the last 26 years; the first of only two we have handled. (Photo)

EXTREMELY RARE 1799 NYC COMMUNION TOKEN

- 686 1799 Communion token of the Associate Church in New York City. Obv. Associate Church; Rev. N York 1799 the entirety in script. Oval, 17 x 23mm, long axis horizontal. Lead. Very Good or better, some of the inevitable old nicks. Extremely rare, only the second we have seen, the other being lot 348, Groves sale, Nov. 1974. Has the same claim to inclusion in the Early American series as the Albany Church Penny of 1790, and is of about the same rarity (R-7). Cf. Thomas Warner, "Communion Tokens", 1888, reprinted for American Journal of Numismatics, vol. 22, 1887-88. (Photo)